

phosphate, barium metaborate and mixtures thereof.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the phenalkamine compound is present in an amount between 40% and 98% by weight and the polyamide crosslinker is present in an amount between 60% and 2% by weight, based on total crosslinker weight.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1-10 and 13-21 remain in the application.

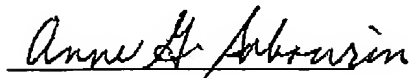
Claims 1-11 and 13-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Osterhold et al. (U.S. patent 5,906,864). The office action stated that Osterhold et al. disclosed a coating composition comprising a primer coating for automotive refinish applications, cured at temperatures above 32° and below 120°F, a method of forming a stable dispersion of pigment in a coating composition. Applicants, through their attorney, request clarification of where in the abstract a description of the "stable pigment dispersion" occurs.

The office action states that there is no explicit teaching of a mixture of a mixture of crosslinkers comprising a polyamide functional compound and a phenalkamine compound. What is disclosed are polyamidoamines which are stated to satisfy the requirement of polyamines and mannich bases which satisfy the phenalkamine requirement, in addition to other crosslinkers that can be used alone or as blends.

Applicants submit that the claims are non-obvious and patentable over Osterhold et al. The instant claims define a solvent-borne composition comprising between 27% and 46% solvent. The reference teaches a water-borne coating composition and teaches that solvent content should be below 10 wt % (col. 8, lines 49-52). Additionally, the reference does not teach that the polyamide functional compound must be utilized and that the polyamide stabilizes the pigment in the coating composition as defined in the instant claims.

For these reasons, Applicants through their attorney, respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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